

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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UNCLAS HELSINKI 0991

USICA

PASS PGM/F
STATE FOR EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR NASA APPOINTMENTS FOR CHAIRMAN PARLIAMENTARY
DEFENSE COMMITTEE

1. OSMO WIIIO, LIBERAL PARTY MP, CHAIRMAN OF THE DEFENSE
COMMITTEE IN PARLIAMENT, LECTURER IN MASS COMMUNICATIONS
AT THE HELSINKI SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS, AND FORMER FINNISH
STATE RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMENTATOR ON SPACE PROGRAMS
(HE WAS THE TOP COMMENTATOR ON THE FIRST MOON LANDING)
WILL VISIT WASHINGTON AND HOUSTON WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH
ON PRIVATE BUSINESS.

2. HE HAS REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS IN BOTH WASHINGTON AND
HOUSTON WITH APPROPRIATE NASA OFFICIALS WHO COULD BRIEF
HIM ON THE "CURRENT STATUS OF THE AMERICAN SPACE PROGRAM"
AND PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS.
WASHINGTON APPOINTMENTS SHOULD BE SCHEDULED ON ONE OF
THE FOLLOWING DAYS: APRIL 21, 24, OR MAY 4 AND 5.
SPACE CENTER TOUR AND APPOINTMENTS IN HOUSTON SHOULD
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BE ON MAY 1 OR 2.

3. WIIIO PLANS TO WRITE ARTICLES ON THE U.S. SPACE
PROGRAM FOR FINNISH PERIODICALS INCLUDING SUOMEN
KUNVALEHTI, THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS MAGAZINE IN FIN-
LAND WITH A CIRCULATION OF 85,000.

4. ALTHOUGH MR. WIIO PLANS TO LEAVE PARLIAMENT
BEFORE THE NEXT ELECTIONS, HE IS ONLY 50 YEARS OLD
AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN IMPORTANT OPINION MAKER
FOR MANY YEARS IN THE FUTURE. HE IS EXPECTED TO BE
APPOINTED AS THE FIRST PROFESSOR OF MASS COMMUNI-
CATIONS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HELSINKI. IN VIEW OF
THIS PROSPECT AS WELL AS HIS CURRENT POLITICAL
IMPORTANCE, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT EVERY EFFORT
BE MADE TO OBTAIN THE REQUESTED APPOINTMENTS FOR
HIM AS WELL AS A MEETING WITH EUR/NE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE. APPRECIATE BEFORE APRIL 14
CONFIRMATION OF TIMES AND DATES OF APPOINTMENTS,
AND NAMES, ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF
OFFICIALS HE SHOULD CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON
AND HOUSTON.
VOTH

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Message Attributes

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